

Rule 5073-1

PHOTOGRAPHS; BROADCASTING OR TELEVISION; USE OF COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Rule 4.11 of the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida applies in the Court in all cases under Title 11 and in all civil proceedings arising under Title 11, or arising in or related to cases under Title 11.

Notes of Advisory Committee

1998 Amendment

The local rules of the District Court generally do not apply in the Bankruptcy Court. See Local Rule 1001-1(d). In most instances within the District, the Bankruptcy Court's facilities are now located in the same federal courthouse in which the District Court's facilities are located. It is therefore desirable to have the same rules apply in both the District Court and the Bankruptcy Court that govern the photographing, broadcasting, and televising of court proceedings, the use of computers and communication devices in court facilities, and the introduction of such equipment and devices into the building in which court proceedings are conducted. Accordingly, this amendment simply deletes the Bankruptcy Court's rule on these subjects and applies in the Bankruptcy Court the provisions of the District Court's corresponding local rule.

The text of the District Court's local rule presently is as follows:

RULE 4.11 PHOTOGRAPHS; BROADCASTING OR TELEVISION; USE OF COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES

(a)(1) As approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States at its March, 1979 meeting, the taking of photographs and the recording or taping of ceremonies for the investing of judicial officers and of

naturalization proceedings and the possession of necessary equipment therefor is authorized in courtrooms of this Court and the environs thereof. At least three (3) hours prior notice of the use of recording or television equipment shall be given to the presiding judge who may control the placement of such equipment in the courtroom.

(a) (2) Otherwise, the taking of photographs, the operation of recording or transmission devices, and the broadcasting or televising of proceedings in any courtroom or hearing room of this Court, or the environs thereof, either while the Court is in session or at recesses between sessions when Court officials, attorneys, jurors, witnesses or other persons connected with judicial proceedings of any kind are present, are prohibited.

(b) In order to facilitate the enforcement of subsection (a) (2) of this rule, no photographic, broadcasting, television, sound or recording equipment of any kind (except that of Court personnel and as authorized by subsection (a) (1) hereof) will be permitted in that part of any building where federal judicial proceedings of any kind are usually conducted in this District, as is designated by the resident judges of the Division in which such building is located. Such designation shall be made by order, filed in the office of the Clerk in such division. Except that of Court personnel, cellular telephones and computer equipment are likewise prohibited in that part of any building where federal judicial proceedings of any kind are usually conducted in this District, as designated by the resident judges in the manner set forth in the preceding sentence, unless otherwise permitted by the judicial officer before whom the particular case or proceeding is pending. This rule does not prohibit the possession of telephonic pagers in such locations, provided that such pagers

are either switched off or placed in a silent activation mode while in such locations.

(c) Employees of other federal agencies resident within the security perimeters of buildings in this District housing federal courts or proceedings, with valid agency identification, are permitted to transport any of the equipment identified above through security checkpoints for the purpose of using same, in their official capacities, within areas of such buildings not covered by subsection (b) of this rule. Said equipment shall be subject to inspection by the United States Marshals Service.

This amendment was effective on October 15, 1998.

1997 Amendment

This amendment conforms the existing Local Rules to the uniform numbering system prescribed by the Judicial Conference of the United States and to the model system suggested and approved by the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules of the Judicial Conference's Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. In renumbering the Local Rules to conform to the uniform numbering system, no change in substance is intended. This amendment was effective on April 15, 1997.

This rule was formerly Local Rule 1.09. The Advisory Committee Notes to the superseded rules may be helpful in interpreting and applying the current rules.

1995 Amendment

The amendment which adds new subparagraph 1.09(c) makes clear that the prohibition of recording and photographic equipment is not intended to prohibit the use of dictation equipment in conjunction with the review of the Clerk's Office files or the use of computer equipment, subject to Court control, generally.

These amendments were effective on February 15, 1995.